

Overview: What Pediatricians Need to Know

Disease Burden

United States:

- 24,000 hepatitis B surface antigen-positive (HBsAg-positive) women are expected to give birth annually¹
- 12,000 infants and children would be infected annually with the hepatitis B virus (HBV) without the appropriate post-exposure prophylaxis to prevent perinatal HBV infection¹
- Chronic HBV infection develops in:
 - 90% of infants infected at birth²
 - 25%-50% of children infected between 1-5 years of age²
 - 6%-10% of children infected at 6 years of age and older²

Michigan:

- **311-460** infants born to HBsAg-positive women should be identified annually³
- On average, 153 infants born to HBsAg-positive women annually over the last 5 years⁴

Prevention

Prevention of HBV transmission requires the coordinated transfer of information between laboratories, primary care providers, hospitals, and the local/state health departments to ensure:

- Maternal HBsAg status is verified to determine the appropriate care needed for all pediatric patients
- Household children/adolescent contacts of HBsAg-positive women are identified, tested, and vaccinated if susceptible
- Infants of HBsAg-positive women receive appropriate prophylaxis and post-vaccination serology

If you have any questions, please call the PHBPP at 517-388-4815, 517-897-3236 or 517-242-8319.

¹Manual for Surveillance of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (March 2020) <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/surv-manual/chpt04-hepb.html>

²Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Hepatitis B FAQs for the Public, (2022), <http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/b/bfaq.htm>

³CDC Point Estimates (2018 data)

⁴Michigan's Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program Annual CDC Report